GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2324
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2008
DECLARATION OF WHEAT STOCKS
Patel Shri Kishanbhai Vestabhai;Sai Shri Nand Kumar;Singh Shri Chandra Bhushan;Singh Shri Sugrib

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has issued Wheat (Stock Declaration by Companies/Firms/Individuals) Order 2008;

(b) if so,the details thereof;

(c) the name of the companies that have furnished requisite information under the said order, State-wise; and

(d) the extent and manner in which the said orders are likely to check blackmarketing and hoarding of wheat in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. The Wheat (Stock Declaration by Companies or Firms or Individuals) Order 2008 was notified by Government, under the Essential Commodities Act 1955, on 11.2.2008. The order makes it mandatory for companies, firms and individuals purchasing wheat in excess of 10,000 metric tonnes throughout the country during Rabi Marketing Season 2008-09 (April, 2008 to March, 2009) to file periodic returns declaring such purchases to the Government.

(c): Names of the companies who have filed returns with Central Government upto 30.11.2008 are annexed.

(d): The Wheat (Stock Declaration by Companies or Firms or Individuals) Order, 2008 was issued to have an assessment of large purchases of wheat by private traders and to check evasion of taxes. Adequate powers are already available with State Governments for checking hoarding and black-marketing of essential commodities, including wheat, under the provisions of "Essential Commodities Act, 1955" and the "Prevention of Black-Marketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1980".